

CANDLEMAS ALL AGE COMMUNION

at Holy Trinity, in the parish of Abbeydale and Millhouses.

10am, 4th February 2024



GATHERING

INFORMATION

The liturgist gives a short introduction explaining the running of the service and anything unfamiliar to the congregation.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Lord the light of your love (Shine Jesus Shine)

The children (with carers if necessary) and liturgists process into the church behind a cross carried by one of the children.

The altar is in the nave with a solitary unlit candle on it.

The procession leads past the altar, the cross is placed on the steps and attached to the handrail. The liturgists and children stand behind the altar in a half ring, facing the congregation.

In the name of The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit

Amen.

Welcome to the All Age Communion service here at Holy Trinity, in the parish of Abbeydale and Millhouses.

Dear friends, forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we mark the day on which he was presented, as a baby, in the Temple. This is the festival of Candlemas. We have candles to remind us of when we were baptised into Jesus' Godly light.

We've got a brand new service style designed to be accessible to all people of all ages. There are some times we sing together, some times we pray together, times we listen to

someone, and times to be totally silent. When we hear this bell ring we know it's a Holy moment to close our eyes shut and listen or pray in silence.

Let's take one of those moments to be silent together, making no noise, closing our eyes and listening out for God who may speak to us.

Bell rings for SILENCE

CONFESSION

Jesus you are the light of the world.
You call us to be lights just like you.
We don't always shine as we should, we get selfish or scared.
We aren't as kind or loving as we could be.
Things we think, or say, or do.
Forgive us, Lord and shine your light through us again.

Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Jesus has conquered death, sin and darkness.
Stand, forgiven and renewed in His light.

BLESSING THE CANDLES

The children lift up their candle as we pray

Lord, bless these candles which remind us of our baptism into your light, and bless these candles we will use in church this year.

Let them remind us to live in your light, and to shine as lights for you in all our lives.

Let's light the candles and sing together.

HYMN

When candles are lighted on Candlemas Day

The dark is behind us and
Spring's on the way.

Refrain:

*A glory dawns in every dark
place,
the light of Christ, the fullness
of grace.*

The kings have departed,
the shepherds have gone,
The child and his parents
are left on their own.

Refrain

They go to the temple,
obeying the law,
And offer two pigeons, the
gift of the poor. *Refrain*

But Anna and Simeon
recognise there
The Christ-child who came
at the turn of the year.

Refrain

The old who have suffered
and waited so long
See hope for the world as
they welcome the young.

Refrain

The light is increasing and
Spring's in the air.
Look back with
thanksgiving! Look forward
with awe! *Refrain*

Like Anna, like Simeon,
may we too have trust,
The eyes to see Jesus and
peace at the last. *Refrain*

The candles invite us to
praise and to pray
When Christmas greets
Easter on Candlemas day.
Refrain

THE WORD

Let's find our place to sit, either in the seats or on the floor
here, and hear the word of God read to us.

Malachi 3:1-4
Hebrews 2.14-18

*We stand for the Gospel reading read in the centre of Church with **two children:***

*2 hold up candles
either side of the reader.*

John 2.22-40

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Praise to you oh Lord

Candles are blown out for the talk

SHORT TALK

CONCISE INTERCESSIONS: The World, Local Church, Ourselves

THE PEACE

HYMN Longing for light, we
wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to
you.
Make us your own, your holy
people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain:
Christ, be our light! Shine in
our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in
your church gathered
today.

2. Longing for peace, our
world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many
despair.
Your word alone has pow'r
to save us.
Make us your living voice.
Refrain

3. Longing for food, many
are hungry.
Longing for water, many still
thirst.
Make us your bread, broken
for others, shared until all are
fed. Refrain

4. Longing for shelter, many
are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many
are cold.
Make us your building,
sheltering others, walls
made of living stone. Refrain

5. Many the gifts, many the
people,
many the hearts that yearn
to belong.
Let us be servants to one
another, making your
kingdom come. Refrain

*The baskets of candles are removed and the eucharistic
elements are put in place (possibly with the help of 2
children*

THE EUCHARIST

Now, here comes a very sacred and special moment.
We're going to celebrate communion together.
Would one of you help me put on the chasuble?

A child puts the chasuble on the priest

This is like a special Godly uniform which helps us all
remember: that what happens at the table is special.
It is special because; it's not I who is giving it.
God is giving it to us.

*The children are invited to stand right up to the altar on
all sides to see and hear what happens at close range*

When we pray together now I will say a short line of prayer
and move my arms and I invite you to repeat what I say and
do like an echo. But first we will start it in silence to get our
hearts and minds ready

Bell rings for SILENCE

(open arms) The Lord is here

All The Lord is here

(hands on heart) His Spirit is with us.

All His Spirit is with us.

(arms raised in praise) We lift our hearts to the Lord.

All We lift our hearts to the Lord.

(thumbs up) It's right to give thanks and praise.

All It's right to give thanks and praise.

Q *Why is it right to give thanks and praise?*

A *Listen, and we will hear.*

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish
You give us happy times

and things to celebrate.
In these we taste your kingdom,
a feast for all your children.

You made us all,
each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels
and speak your praise:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
[Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.]**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Bell rings for SILENCE

Q *Why do we share this bread & wine?*
A *Listen, and we will hear.*

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Q *How do we follow Jesus Christ?*
A *Listen, and we will hear.*

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with [N and] all your saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

All Amen.

Our Father in Heaven
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Bread is broken by a child under the direction of the Priest.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all Share
in one bread.**

Now, come, and share at the table of Christ where all are
welcome.

ADMINISTRATION

The bread and wine are given in front of the altar

1 Faithful vigil ended,
watching, waiting cease;
Master, grant your servant
his discharge in peace.

2 All the Spirit promised,
all the Father willed,
now these eyes behold it
perfectly fulfilled.

53. Be still.
Be still, for the presence of
the Lord,
The holy One, is here;
Come bow before him now
With reverence and fear
In him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of
the Lord,
The holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the
Lord
Is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
With splendour he is
crowned:

3 This your great deliverance
sets your people free;
Christ their light uplifted
all the nations see.

4 Christ, your people's glory!
watching, doubting cease:
grant to us your servants
our discharge in peace.

How awesome is the sight
Our radiant king of light!
Be still, for the glory of the
Lord
Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the
Lord
Is moving in this place:
He comes to cleanse and
heal,
To minister his grace -
No work too hard for him.
In faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the
Lord
Is moving in this place.

THE COMMISSION

The children are invited to relight their candles as we pray

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

Jesus tells us "You are the light of the world" Go and shine!

HYMN 494 The Spirit lives to set us free

The Spirit lives to set us free, me,
walk, walk in the light; walk, walk in the light.
He binds us all in unity, *Walk in the light....*

walk, walk in the light.
 Walk in the light,
 Walk in the light,
 Walk in the light,
 Walk in the light of the
Lord.

We know His death was not
the end,
walk, walk in the light;
He gave His Spirit to be our
friend,
walk, walk in the light.
 Walk in the light....

Jesus promised life to all,
walk, walk in the light;
the dead were wakened by
His call,
walk, walk in the light.
 Walk in the light....

By Jesus' love our wounds
are healed,
walk, walk in the light;
the Father's kindness is
revealed,
walk, walk in the light.
 Walk in the light....

He died in pain on Calvary ,
walk, walk in the light;
to save the lost like you and

The Spirit lives in you and
me,
walk, walk in the light;
His light will shine for all to

see,
walk, walk in the light.
Walk in the light...

*Children relight their candles and when all are ready
process out to the font at the back of church.*

Go in peace to love and serve The Lord
In the name of Christ, Amen.